

to hand count all the ballots. Second, it would be prohibitively expensive. But the idea that somehow machines are more accurate than human counts is just nonsensical. It is just not true. The human count is still the most accurate.

When the votes are really close and when the office is at stake because of the closeness of the votes—.0067 percent of the votes in Florida, as I stand here—it is incumbent upon us to do what we would do in a local sheriff's race or supervisor's race, and that is to hand count these ballots.

Again, having said that, I will have more to say about it later on this afternoon. I see the hour is 12:30 so the time has come for our recess. We will be back in at 2:15. At that time, I want to explore a little further the idea of having a standardized procedure for standardized voting machines for the entire country, one on which people can rely no matter where they live. People move all the time. They should not have to be confronted with different voting machines.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be listed as a cosponsor of the legislation just introduced by Senator SPECTER of Pennsylvania.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HARKIN. Has the hour of 12:30 arrived, Mr. President?

Mr. SPECTER. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I think the resolution we have been waiting for has arrived.

Mr. HARKIN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, parliamentary inquiry: I understand that the Senate will reconvene at 2:15.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate reconvenes at 2:15 I be recognized for up to 15 minutes to finish my statement.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I think we have a previous consent agreement that allows for each of the leaders to present a list of those who wish to speak.

Mr. HARKIN. I did not hear the President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I guess it is not an actual unanimous consent request.

Is there objection to the request? Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I had asked for a quorum call for just a mo-

ment so that staff could complete certain paperwork. So it may be understood why I asked for the quorum call and asked that it be rescinded so promptly. On behalf of our distinguished majority leader, I have been asked to make this unanimous consent request.

#### MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2001

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now turn to the consideration of the continuing resolution, H.J. Res. 125, funding the Federal Government through December 5, 2000; that the joint resolution be read the third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, all without any intervening action, motion, or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 125) was read the third time and passed.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is my understanding that when we come back at 2:15, there will be a time for morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. SPECTER addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H. CON. RES. 442

Mr. SPECTER. Again, on behalf of the majority leader, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate receives the adjournment resolution from the House, the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, all without any intervening action, motion, or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. No objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the hour of 12:30 having arrived, the Senate will now stand in recess until the hour of 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:33 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. FITZGERALD).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The acting majority leader is recognized.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. MURKOWSKI. On behalf of the majority leader, I ask unanimous consent that following the 15 minutes allotted to Senator HARKIN, Senator

LOTT or his designee be recognized for up to 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I indicated to the majority leader I would indicate when I came back how many speakers we have. Senator DODD indicated he wants to speak for half an hour. Senator HARKIN will speak for 15 minutes. The Democratic leader, Senator DASCHLE, wishes to speak for 15 or 20 minutes. Those are the only speakers we have had request time on this side. If there are any others, I will be happy to inform the Chair.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, in view of the request of the minority, I ask unanimous consent that following the 15 minutes allotted to Senator LOTT or his designee, there be an additional period for morning business until 4:15, with the time equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, I just add to that unanimous consent request that during that period of time, Senator DODD be recognized for up to 30 minutes, and the Democratic leader for up to 20 minutes.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. It is my understanding that will be off of their time.

Mr. REID. Yes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. The time will be equally divided between the two sides. I thank the Chair and I trust that meets the requests of all interested Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri is recognized.

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I request 5 minutes of the time the majority leader has reserved.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I yield 5 minutes to the Senator from Missouri.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator from Missouri is recognized.

#### OSHA ERGONOMICS RULE

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise to call to the attention of my colleagues and the many people across this Nation the fact that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration has rushed to judgment and published a huge, extremely burdensome ergonomics rule. They had talked about this previously with bipartisan support. We had included in the Labor-HHS bill, as well as others, legislative vehicles stating that they should not go forward with this measure because of the burdens it imposed. I have in my hand the voluminous computer printout of the rule. I chair the small business committee, and I can just see the thrill and excitement with which a small business will view this rule coming down on their backs.

I hope this body can take action to stop the implementation of this rule